SOCCER STAR

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CROATIA TOPS!

Ivan the terrible routs Blacktown

MELBOURNE Croatia soared to the top of the NSL ladder after demolishing a hopeless Blacktown City 6-0 at North Sunshine.

New scoring sensation Ivan Kelic, taking the transition from State League to the NSL in his stride, notched the season's first hat-trick, aided and abetted by his striking partner, Francis Awaritefe, who also grabbed a goal.

And Kelic wasn't the only new young striker in the news, either.

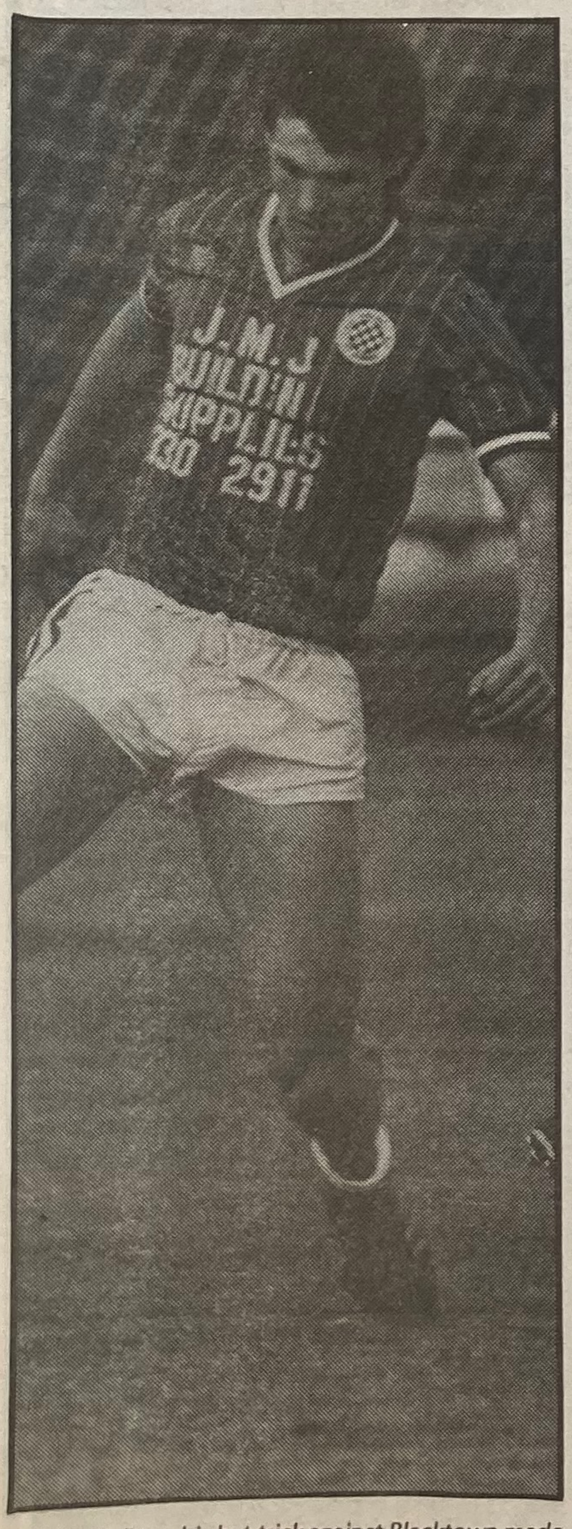
South Melbourne's dynamic Damian Mori scored his side's two goals as South brought George Cross' winning gallop to a halt at Middle Park.

In a round of upsets, Wollongong brought the seemingly invincible Sydney Croatia to its knees, with the unsettled Danny Crainie starring.

Marconi gave embattled Jim Tansey even more creases in that famous forehead with a 4-0 hiding, although the Bergers can point to the fact that goalkeeper Mike Chatzitrifonos had to be carried off when the score was only 1-0.

APIA cast a sour note over inaugural celebrations as Melbourne JUST unveiled its ground improvements by winning 1-0, whilst Preston survived a determined Adelaide City to win well in the city of churches.

You'll find all these stories and more in our comprehensive NSL coverage starting on page 4.



● Ivan Kelic . . his hat-trick against Blacktown made him the country's leading goalscorer with six goals from four games.

● Damian Mori, his two goals put paid to Sunshine George Cross.

ABC wins TV battle

IT appears that SBS has lost the battle to televise NSL matches to the ABC.
On Monday Mr Justice Young of the Equity Division of the NSW Supreme Court lifted the injunction that allowed SBS cameras on to NSL grounds alongside those of the ABC.
ASF chairman Ian Brusasco welcomed the decision but SBS could still be considering an appeal.
However, NSL manager Peter Russell said that SBS cameras would no longer be allowed into NSL grounds.

NSL RESULTS AT A GLANCE

- SOUTH 2 GEORGE X 1
- MELBOURNE JUST 0 APIA 1
- MELBOURNE CROATIA 6 BLACKTOWN 0
- MARCONI 4 HEIDELBERG 0
- WONGONG 1 SYDNEY CROATIA 0
- ADELAIDE CITY 1 PRESTON 2
- SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0 ST. GEORGE 2

P.R. WHAT'S THAT?

SNIPPETS

By LES SHORROCK

LAST week I wrote saying how disappointed I was that Arthur Higgins, the ABC's newly-appointed sports presenter had made no reference to soccer, and that I was going to ring him to complain.

Last Thursday night, after watching the 7 o'clock news I rang Higgins and proceeded to try to take him to task.

I said that the previous night I was at the Buffalo Cup semi-final in the presence of a very big crowd and it was a great advertisement for soccer that received no television coverage whatsoever.

I was in full flow, venting my disappointment, when Higgins stopped me dead in my tracks with one simple statement

All he said was, "Nobody told us it (the semi-final) was on!"

What could I say?

I mumbled something to the effect that I would try to see that he was kept informed in future since it is obviously beneath the ABC's dignity to purchase this humble little newspaper every week.

I've always found Arthur Higgins very receptive on the subject of soccer, which is more than can be said for a lot of newscasters, (his predecessor for one), and he tried his best for us in his previous job with Radio 3UZ.

But even there, he told me, he was kept abreast of Victorian soccer doings, not through the VSF, but by courtesy of a certain State League official who used to send him a fax every week!

Anyway, at the end of our conversation Arthur promised me that he would take a camera crew along to the Buffalo Cup-final and feature it on the news, it will be interesting to see what eventuates.

Now I don't know what plans the VSF has for this huge windfall that has dropped into its lap from the combined Health Foundations, but I sincerely hope that it will see fit to spending some of it on spreading the gospel.

Not that the VSF is the worst culprit when it comes to hiding its light under a bushel, by any means.

At least, during the VSF season it sends a weekly fixture list at least a fortnight in advance, which is in stark contrast t the NSL office in Sydney which sends out its rare media fixture lists in arrears.

I'm not joking... the last communication this newspaper received arrived on January 31, posted on January 25, detailing venues and kick-off times for the games to be played on January 26 and 28!

Is it any wonder that sports editors in Melbourne tell me with a sly grin that the game is its own worst enemy?

★★★★★★★★★★

CRINO GIVES TEAMMATES THE 'BLUES'

Things are certainly on the move at Footscray.

I went to the Schintler Reserve last Saturday for the new ground's inaugural game and was very impressed with the progress the new owners had made in the close season.

As our picture shows, at least 2000 people can watch the game from the comfort of a seat, and the new clubrooms are also nearing completion.

The playing pitch itself looked in superb condition, the fencing high enough to deter pitch invasions and that notorious gutter (the bane of photographers' lives) has thankfully been eliminated.

Unfortunately the team's performance didn't match the ground's new image. It might have changed its name, but it is still the Footscray of old, tip-tapping its way to defeat and on this form looking more likely to be staving off relegation than pressing for a top five spot.

And a Monday morning newspaper article wouldn't have helped matters on the harmony front, either.

Dimoski, who almost unbelievably is second on the current goalscoring list, should have taken a leaf out of John Kosmina's and Rod Brown's books and put himself about a bit as they did.

He must have learnt something, he spent enough time watching them!

APIA might have come, as one columnist suggested to play nine at the back and two up front, but what a handful the pair up front proved to be.

If you don't believe that Kosmina and Brown earned their money, ask Gary van Egmond and Co. who had to cope with them.

But that is really irrelevant, what is relevant is whether Crino is going to continue to blast teammates in the name of promoting harmony. I can hardly wait for the next post-mortem!

In it, Oscar Crino, one of the new owners I understand, was quoted as saying "We are simply not playing as good as we can and we are carrying players out there" and he apparently continued to get a few more thoughts off his chest at the same time.

All this, mind you, after directing a torrent of abuse towards two of his fellow-midfielders whom he felt were doing less than they should.

Crino is obviously going to have difficulty wearing his two hats... or should that be three, if he is going to assume the coach's responsibilities for castigating the players as well.

I hope he includes himself in his future critiques, because truth to tell, he didn't contribute too much himself on Saturday.

There were passengers, of course, he's quite right when he says that and just to name one, Milan Dimoski who is probably in a privileged position, spent most of the match standing around wearing a pout like a sulky schoolgirl, presumably because he wasn't being fed with the ball.

★★★★★★★★★★

REMEMBER JOHN YZENDOORN?

I was talking to John Yzendoorn this week and he tells me that he thinks people must be under the impression he has retired and he's beginning to feel like the forgotten man of Victorian soccer.

John, a cultured and versatile footballer gave great service to Slavia, South Melbourne, Heidelberg and Juventus, not to mention the Socceroos, and he's still available.

"I'm fine," he says, "the ankle has mended, and I'm fit and I feel I still have a couple of years of NSL soccer left in me."

Yzendoorn is listed by Juventus at a ridiculous $15,000, but feels that Juve will be reasonable.

"It's in their interests to take less, after all," he says, "otherwise they stand to get nothing at all."

If Yzendoorn can't get away to a NSL club, he's prepared to take on a State League player/coaching job.

Anyone interested should contact him on 763 9444 during working hours.

★★★★★★★★★★

● *Improved spectator accommodation at Schintler Reserve ... the question is, when will the team come up to the same standard?*

● John Yzendoorn

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The Offside Club

The Offside Club's first function of 1989 will be a LUNCH at the Olympia Room, No. 2 ground, OLYMPIC PARK on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, commencing 12.30 pm sharp.

THE OCCASION MARKS THE ARRIVAL OF SWEDISH CHAMPION CLUB MALMO FOR A TWO GAME SERIES AGAINST THE SOCCEROOS. GUEST SPEAKER AT THE LUNCH WILL BE MR ROY HODGSON, MANAGER OF MALMO FF, AND TICKETS AT $25.00 EACH CAN BE OBTAINED BY RINGING **OLYMPIC PARK ON 429 6288.**

Wade & Tasios back soon

SOCCEROO dynamo Paul Wade hopes to begin his get-fit campaign in earnest this week by turning out for South Melbourne's youth team.

By BOB BRIAN of the Melbourne Herald

Wade has not played this season because of a troublesome pelvic injury and his training has been confined to exercises in a swimming pool.

But recently he has been doing some sprints and feels fit enough to try some serious exercise.

"We will see how it goes," he says. "I have to start playing soon if I am to be considered for the World Cup qualifying games against Israel and New Zealand next month."

Wade's return will certainly be a boost to South's chances of taking out the championship, especially as he should soon be joined by other injured stars Steve Tasios and Peter Tsolakis.

Both are making good progress from illness and injury and their return will give coach Brian Garvey the kind of problems all coaches love to wrestle with.

★★★★★★★★★★

TONY REDMOND WANTS AWAY

Tony Redmond was not too happy about the way Croydon City looked after him when he was out of action after having a knee reconstruction operation, so he is now looking for another club.

● Tony Redmond... looking for another club.

The former Melbourne Croatia defender or midfielder, who is still only 26, has been training alone in a gym for the past four months and says he is fighting fit again.

"I feel really good and I believe I can still do a good job in the State League," Redmond said.

★★★★★★★★★★

MORI: BOX HILL'S LOSS IS SOUTH'S GAIN

The powers that be at Box Hill must surely be kicking themselves over Damien Mori, the 17-year-old South Melbourne mid-fielder.

Mori was allowed to leave Box Hill, in fact you might say he was "encouraged" to go.

Anyway he turned up at Middle Park looking for a trial and has since become a very important member of the squad.

Mori scored twice against Sunshine George Cross last weekend and showed tremendous pace. His former coach at Box Hill, George Murray, was moved to say: "I can't believe they let him go. He must be the fastest thing in the game here. There is no doubt in my mind that he will make the grade in the National League."

Certainly Mori had more confidence in his ability than his former club, which must be thinking about the money it could have picked up for his transfer.

★★★★★★★★★★

Kenny Drakeford, who was a firm favourite with the Morwell Falcons supporters last season, looks like moving to Caulfield City in time for the start of the State League season.

Drake has had talks with Caulfield officials and I believe they made him an offer he couldn't refuse, including a paid trip home to England.

★★★★★★★★★★

IAN WALLACE RECRUITING

Albion, now under the guidance of former Scottish international striker Ian Wallace, has signed Jimmy Campbell from Croydon and is chasing up Gordon Flavell and Dave McIntosh from the same club.

Also on the wanted list is John Dowie, who has been put up for sale by Heidelberg United.

Croydon may try to cover the loss of three players by going for Andy O'Dell, also of Heidelberg.

★★★★★★★★★★

STEVENSON & McLEOD FOR 'GATE?

Stuart Stevenson and Donny MacLeod, both of whom played for Heidelberg United in the National Leagaue, will be moving to the first division if Bill Murray has his way.

Murray wants them both at Altona Gate and has come up with tempting offers. The problem is that both players feel they are capable of playing at a higher grade and although they have answered a few enquiries, Altona has come up with the only cash inducements.

★★★★★★★★★★

McDOWALL ON THE ROAD BACK

Socceroo and Juventus defender Garry McDowall hopes to get the plaster removed from his ankle injury this week and he will go right into training in an effort to win back his Socceroo place quickly.

Running will top the list of things to do, although he has recently been working with weights.

"The surgeon said I would probably be off for six months. I say four at most," McDowall said.

With a possible transfer to Melbourne City JUST and a Socceroo place stake, I have a feeling McDowall's estimate will be closest.

★★★★★★★★★★

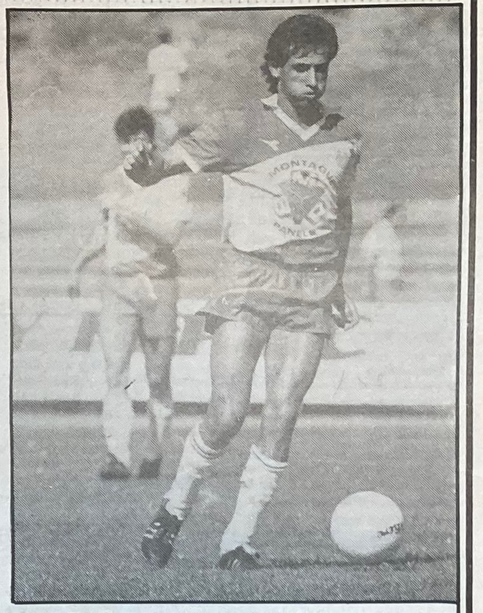
WAITING FOR OFFERS

Dean Hennessy, son of Terry and a player who refuses to even consider defeat, is holding off signing for Thomastown in the hope of receiving a better offer.

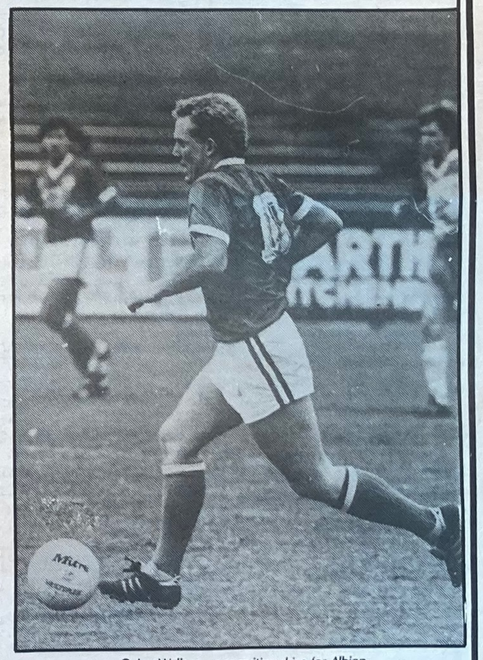
Hennessy played for Fawkner last season and has since had a few clubs showing interest in plans for the future. But nothing concrete yet.

Of course, most State League clubs are only now drawing up wanted lists and anything could happen soon. Hennessy is the type of player every club should have.

★★★★★★★★★★



● Steve Tasios... making good progress with recovery.



● Ian Wallace... a recruiting drive for Albion.

ROUND FOUR DETAILS

MELBOURNE JUST 0 APIA LEICHHARDT 1(R.Brown 7th).
At Schintler Reserve,Saturday.Crowd 3500.
Referee D.Voutsinas.Cautions Tortevski(MJ), Radosavlevjic(A).Sent off Bundalo(A).
MELBOURNE JUST:Nikitovic-Deankovic,Durakovic, van Egmond,Barjaktarevic - Fabrizio(Murphy 65th),Tapai,Tortevski,Crino - Dimoski. Palatsides.Coach Ilija Dimoski.
APIA LEICHHARDT:Pezzano - Stewart,O'Connor, Radoslavjevic,Brown.M - Mason,Bundalo,Ellam (Hagan 37th),Ricoy - Brown.R(Murray 78th), Kosmina. Coach Mike Urukalo.

SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Mori 54th,57th) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 1(Lewis 68th).
At Middle Park,Sunday.Crowd 3000.Referee J.McConnell.
SOUTH MELBOURNE:McLaren - Russell,Fernandez. Blair,Postecoglou - Petersen,Healy,Foster (Michell 80th),Mori - Wright,Trimboli. Coach Brian Garvey.
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS:Keogh - Waddell(Hasler 75th)Parton,Kotzamichalis,Marth - Carter, McLaren,Campelj,Faulkner -Lewis,Latif. Coach John Gardiner.

MELBOURNE CROATIA 6(Kelic 39th,47th,68th,Biskic 76th,Awaritefe 83rd). BLACKTOWN CITY 0
At Somers St.Sunday.Referee J.Fraser.
MELBOURNE CROATIA:Olver - Opasinas,Cannell. Davidson,Donnelly-Biskic(Duzel 79th),Valentic. Milosevic - Casleta,Awaritefe,Kelic. Coach Ivan Raznevjic.
BLACKTOWN:Watson -Bennett,G.Sterrey,Reynolds, Northam - Divljak(Gibson 53rd),Meier,Odzakov, Naumov - McKinna (Jee 53rd),van Blerk. Coach Les Scheinflug.

MARCONI 4(de Jong 50th,o.g 71st,Nastevski 81st, Lowe 88th.HEIDELBERG UNITED 0.
At Marconi Stadium,Saturday.Crowd 2500.
Referee A.Owens.
MARCONI:Catlin - Carter,De Marigny,Calderan. Wheatley-Gomez(Colucci 80th),McCulloch.Katholos, Lowe - de Jong(Caliguri 80th),Nastevski. Coach Berti Mariani.
HEIDELBERG UTD:Chatzistrifonos(inj.Goutzioulis 61st),Patiniotis,Lucchesi,Ousalkas,Bordignon - Kanesoulis,Douglas,Burgess,Raynes - Stubbins, Theodosopoulos.Coach Jim Tansey.

ADELAIDE CITY 1(Mullen 43rd) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Markovski pen.2nd,Spink 70th).
At Hindmarsh Stadium,Sunday.Referee T.McCroe.
ADELAIDE CITY:Zabica - Naven.Nyskohus,Flounders, Tobin(Santrac 85th) -Melta,Northcote,Vidmar, Villani --Mullen,Maxwell(Vial 80th).Coach Zoran Matic.
PRESTON MAKEDONIA:Traianides-Roodhouse,Jackson, Piculovski,Jolevski - Tasevski,Markovski,Zinni, Markovac - Smith(Runje 60th).Spink.Coach Andom Doncevski.

WOLLONGONG 1 (Easthorpe 13th) SYDNEY CROATIA 0
At Brandon Park,Sunday.Referee P.Spiers.
WOLLONGONG:Young: - Kotamanides,Morlando, Vlietstra,Hollifield - Stefanovski,Bonetig, Skeen,Crainie - Brodnik.Easthorpe. Coach John Fleming.
SYDNEY CROATIA:Franken-Savor,Hunter,Rozic,Rezo (Petkovic 55th),Clinch,Slater,Jones,Arnold - Foster(Krslevic 60th),Ingham.Coach Vedran Rozic.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0 ST.GEORGE 2(Bingley 29th, Koczka pen.79th).
At St.George Stadium.Sunday.Crowd 3000.
Referee J.Reeves.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC:Meier - Hooker(Lee 75th),Dakos, Bernal,Koch - McGarry(Saad 75th),Ironside, Raskopoulos,Polak - Soper,Edwards. Coach Eddie Thomson.
ST.GEORGE:Gibson - Morakeas(Lampropoulos 60th), Koczka,O'Shea,Grbevski - Ratcliffe,Moffitt,Ilic (Adoboe 60th),Pottier - Bingley,Ollerenshaw. Coach Frank Arok.

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Youth League Results

ROUND ONE
MELBOURNE JUST 0 v MELB. CROATIA 1
Bacak (J)
HEIDELBERG UTD ALEX. 3 v MALVERN CITY 3
Peppos (B), Dinas (A) & Englezos (C) Alexopoulos (C) 2, Avgenidis (S)
CAULFIELD CITY 3 v WAVERLEY UNITED 1
Lagadinos (G) 2 Tsoronis (G) 1 Gomez (A)
ALTONA GATE 1 v CLIFTON HILL 0
Aslimovski (S)
PRESTON 3 v CLAYTON 0
GACOVSKI (M), Nicolaou (D) & Cassar (M)

ROUND 2
MELB. CROATIA v HEIDELBERG UN. ALEX.
No results to hand as yet.
CLAYTON 1 v MELBOURNE JUST 1
D'Angelo (J) Becvinovski (S)
MALVERN CITY 1 v CAULFIELD CITY 4
Alexopoulos (C) Tsoronis (G), Schmidl (E), Skondreas (N) & Mavridis (S)
WAVERLEY UNITED 0 v ALTONA GATE 1
Trajkovski (R)
S.G.X. 3 v PRESTON 2
Karkaledis (G) Zacharias (A) & Papadopoulos (N)
Emsovski (C) & Manirovski (R)

ROUND 3
CAULFIELD CITY 2 v MELBOURNE CROATIA 1
No goal scorers yet Cerin (K)
HEIDELBERG UTD ALEX. 0 MELB. JUST 1
Becvinovski (S)

ALTONA GATE 2 v MALVERN CITY 1
Aslimovski (K) & Trajkovski (R)
No goal scorer for Malvern City yet.
PRESTON 2 v SOUTH MELBOURNE 1
Gacovski (M) & Nicolaou (D) Lennon (K)

ROUND 3
SUNSHINE GX 4 v CLAYTON 0
Zacharias (A) 3 own goal 1

ROUND FOUR
MELBOURNE CROATIA 1 v ALTONA GATE 0
Cerin (K)
MELBOURNE JUST 1 v CAULFIELD CITY 1
Lazopoulos (B) Zouzounis (E)
CLAYTON 3 v HEIDELBERG UTD ALEX. 1
Pansino (F) WELLS (M) & Salvatore (V) Stewart (J)
CLIFTON HILL 0 v PRESTON 3
Momirovski (R), Nicolaou (D) & Metaxas (M)
SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 v SUNSHINE GX 3
Argiriou (C) & Perdikais (C) Karkalidis 2 & Zacharias 1

YOUTH LEAGUE FIXTURES

Round Five
ALTONA GATE v MELBOURNE JUST
CAULFIELD CITY v HEIDELBERG UNITED
PRESTON MAKEDONIA v WAVERLEY UN.
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v CLIFTON H K.O. 3.30pm
SOUTH MELBOURNE v CLAYTON
MELBOURNE CROATIE bye
MALVERN CITY bye

N.S.L. GOALSCORERS

6.	Kelic(MCr)	Denyer(Bl)
		Faulkner(GX)
3.	Dimoski (MC)	Hagan(Ap)
	Spink(PM)	Hasler(GX)
		Ingham(SC)
2.	Awaritefe(MC)	Ironside(SO)
	Bingley(StG)	Koczka(St.G)
	Biskic(MC)	Kosmina.p(Ap)
	Brown R(Ap)	Markovski(PM)
	Easthorpe(W)	McGarry(SO)
	Latif(GX)	McKinna(Bl)
	Lewis(GX)	Melta(AC)
	Lowe(Mar)	Milosevic(MC)
	Mori(SM)	Mullen(Ad)
	Nastevski(Mar)	Palatsides(MC)
	Ollerenshaw(StG)	Postecoglou(SM)
	Slater(SC)	Radoslavjevic(Ap)
	Soper(SO)	Reynes(H)
		Ricoy(Ap)
1.	Arnold(SC)	Selemides(MCr)
	Bernal(SO)	Stubbins(H)
	Brodnik(W)	Theodosopoulos(H)
	Calderan(Mar)	Trimboli(SM)
	Caleta(MC)	Tsolakis(SM)
	Crainie(W)	Van Blerk(Bl)
	Crino(MC)	Zinni(PM)
	de Jong(Mar)	3.o.g

N.S.L. LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MELBOURNE CROATIA	4	3	0	1	13	7	6
SYDNEY CROATIA	4	3	0	1	4	1	6
ST.GEORGE	4	3	0	1	5	3	6
MARCONI	4	2	1	1	7	4	5
WOLLONGONG	4	2	1	1	5	3	5
APIA Leichhardt	4	2	1	1	5	4	5
Sydney Olympic	4	2	0	2	6	3	4
South Melbourne	4	2	0	2	6	4	4
George Cross	4	2	0	2	6	5	4
Preston Makedonia	4	2	0	2	5	5	4
Melbourne JUST	4	1	1	2	5	5	3
Heidelberg United	4	1	0	3	3	11	2
Blacktown City	4	1	0	3	3	13	2
Adelaide City	4	0	0	4	2	7	0

N.S.L. YOUTH LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Caulfield City	4	3	1	0	10	4	7
George Cross	3	3	0	0	10	4	6
Preston Mak.	4	3	0	1	10	4	6
Melb.Croatia	3	2	0	1	3	2	4
Altona Gate	3	2	0	1	2	1	4
Melb.JUST	4	1	2	1	3	3	4
Clayton	4	1	1	2	4	9	3
Malvern City	2	0	1	1	4	7	1
Heidelberg	3	0	1	2	4	7	1
South Melbourne	2	0	0	2	3	5	0
Waverley United	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Clifton Hill	2	0	0	2	0	4	0

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

KELIC PUTS STING INTO BLACKTOWN

MELBOURNE CROATIA 6 (Kelic 39th, 47th, 68th, Caleta 49th, Biskic 76th, Awaritefe 83rd)
BLACKTOWN 0

Blacktown City felt the sting of Ivan Kelic as Melbourne Croatia stormed to a 6-0 victory in its Sunday match at the Croatian Sports Centre.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *IVAN KELIC*

Kelic scored a hat-trick of goals and with six in four rounds, is the clear leader on the league scorers list.

In his first NSL season, Kelic has benefitted from the service of Croatia's skilful winger Josip Caleta and his fellow striker Francis Awaritese.

Kelic, 20, joined Croatia from St Albans Dinamo, where he was State League top scorer last season.

Croatia achieved its big win despite the absence of defender George Hannah and midfielder Theo Selemidis, who were out injured.

Blacktown secretary Peter Thorne, although bitterly disappointed, predicted Blacktown would improve with the acquisition of youth international striker Zlatko Arambasic from Canterbury-Marrickville defender Lee Sterrey is also out with injury. But, he said coach Les Scheinflug had "a lot of work to do."

It was a dashing run by left back Paul Donnelly that led to Croatia's first goal, scored by Kelic, who headed home Donnelly's cross in the 39th minute.

Kelic headed the second from a cross by Branko Milosevic two minutes after half time and Caleta made it 3-0 with a shot from an acute angle, which goalkeeper Steve Watson should have stopped.

Scheinflug then replaced striker Lawrie McKinna and midfielder Tomislav Divljak with Steve Jee and John Gibson, who took wing position on either side of Jason Van Blerk, who moved into the middle.

It bothered Croatia not at all.

Kelic made it 4-0 after Awaritefe had hit the underside of the crossbar with a hard shot that bounced out again.

Then a cross from Caleta was lobbed over Watson by Biskic for the fifth goal.

With 10 minutes to go, Croatia coach Ivan Raznjevic brought on his latest recruit, midfielder Ivan Duzel from St Albans Dinamo.

For the last goal, in the 85th minute, Caleta ran almost the length of the field on the left wing before squaring the ball to Awaritefe, who put it away.

DAD'S ARMY SHOWS THEM

MELBOURNE CITY 0
APIA LEICHHARDT 1 (R. Brown 6th)

Apia-Leichhardt recovered from its loss to Melbourne Croatia the week before to beat Melbourne City 1-0 at Schintler Reserve on Saturday.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *ROD BROWN*

The victory helped silence critics who tipped Apia, the team affectionately known as Dad's Army, for relegation from the league because it recruited so many players in their thirties.

But the team relied heavily on its acrobatic goalkeeper Tony Pezzano after taking the lead through Rod Brown in the seventh minute.

It was a through pass from midfielder Craig Mason that sent Brown on the run for the winning goal.

Golkeeper Zoran Nikitovic had come too far off his line, presenting Brown with an open goal.

Pezzano was called into action for the first time a few seconds later, flying across goal to save a header from City striker Joe Palatsides.

But although City held sway for most of the first half, Apia almost scored again when John Kosmina headed the ball down for Alex Bundalo whose shot hit Nikitovic right on the line.

Pezzano saved Apia again in the 29th minute when he deflected a hard shot from Ernie Tapai on to the crossbar.

A minute later he pounced at the feet of Vlade Tortevski who had latched on to an Apia backpass.

Apia continued to attack and Brown would have scored in the 34th minute had it not been for a full-blooded tackle by Durakovic.

City failed to take full advantage of the wind in the second half and it was Apia which had the first scoring chance as Niktovic dropped a Pedro Ricoy free kick.

Kosmina shot from close range, but Durakovic cleared off the line.

Apia broke away again four miutes later, but Brown's low shot hit the far post.

Marconi sparkles against Bergers

MARCONI 4 (DeJong 50th, Lucchesi og 71st, Nastevski 81st, Lowe 88th)
HEIDELBERG 0
A sparkling second half showing by champion Marconi spearheaded the club to a 4-0 win over newly promoted Heidelberg at Marconi Stadium.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *NICK CHATZITRIFONOS*

Heidelberg's cause was handicapped when goalkeeper Nick Chatzitrifonos suffered a severe gash above his eyebrow and was stretchered off in the 61st minute.

Midfielder Steve Douglas did a commendable job as his replacement, but was unable to stop a flood of goals.

Heidelberg, with frenzied running and old stager Claude Lucchesi pulling the strings from the back, kept Marconi scoreless for the first half.

Lucchesi set up the most dangerous move of the period.

In the 43rd minute he brilliantly rounded Marconi midfielder Peter Katholas and delivered a well-weighted cross only to see Heidelberg striker Lou Theodosopoulos' header blocked by diving Marconi goalkeeper Bobby Catlin.

But it was Marconi which swung into action five minutes after the break.

Fred De Jong brilliantly jinked his way around the defence and scored his first goal of the season by flicking the ball into the goal from three metres.

From that point striker David Lowe and midfielder Tom McCulloch tore holes in the visitors' defence.

Heidelberg was unlucky when visiting striker Phil Stubbins lobbed the ball over the bar in the 60th minute when an equaliser had been on.

In the 71st minute the club's bad luck continued when Lucchesi edged in an own goal to put Marconi ahead.

The pressure increased and 10 minutes later Marconi scored again through a header by midfield ace Zlatko Nastevski.

With two minutes remaining, Lowe completed the 4-0 root from close in to cap a splendid effort.

Afterwads Marconi coach Berti Mariani said the score reflected the run of play.

Heidelberg's Jim Tansey said he was happy with his team's hard running display up until the loss of Chatzitrifonos through injury.

KEEPER SAVES LOWLY SAINTS

SYD. OLYMPIC 0
ST GEORGE 2 (Bingley 29th, Koczka pen. 79th)

Underdog St George climbed to third on the table with an incident-packed 2-0 win over Sydney Olympic at the St George Stadium on Sunday night.

The match produced three penalty kicks but only one, the one awarded to St George, was converted.

Saints' Socceroo deputy goalkeeper Mike Gibson was his team's hero, saving both Olympic penalties and throwing himself at the dozen or so shots which peppered his goal throughout an exciting game.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *MIKE GIBSON*

St George took the lead in the 29th minute against the run of play.

Socceroo striker Scott Ollerenshaw skirted around a defender before unleashing a shot which was parried by goalkeeper Gary Meier into the feet of Matt Bingley.

The young forward speared the rebound into the roof of the net for his second goal of the season.

Just on halftime, referee Jim Reeves awarded Olympic a hotly disputed penalty for a foul on Alistair Edwards inside the area.

But Mike McGarry's spot kicked was saved by Gibson in spectacular fashion as he dived to the left to anticipate the shot.

Three minutes into the second half, Gibson was again in the thick of the action with a second superb penalty save after McGarry had been fouled by Alan Pottier.

He dived full length to cut off Robert Ironside's kick.

Ironside had a shot hit the bar 10 minutes later as Olympic poured on the pressure but the Saints enjoyed a charmed life despite a sustained pounding.

They were pinned inside their half for almost the entire second half yet launched a rare counter-attack in the 78th minute, which brought a second goal.

Ingley was tripped by goalie Meier. The referee awarded a penalty, which this time was converted by St George skipper Andy Koczka.

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *DANNY CRAINEY*

LOCALS GOOD ENOUGH FOR WOLVES WIN

WOLLONGONG 1 (Easthorpe 13th)
SYD. CROATIA 0

Wollongong City used seven local products to beat leader Sydney Croatia 1-0 at Brandon Park on Sunday night.

Last season, the Wolves won the minor premiership with the aid of overseas guest players but on Sunday their fans gave "the locals" a standing ovation.

Wollongong scored its all-important goal after only 13 minutes, striker Randell Easthorpe sending a diving header into the Croatian net.

It was the first goal Croatia had conceded this season and Wollongong could easily have scored ore in an enterprising first-half performance.

It dominated the opening 45 minutes with transfer-listed midfielder Danny Crainey outstanding.

Crainey was involved in everything and some of his pinpoint passes had the Croatia defence struggling.

Wollongong coach John Fleming said after the game his team performed superbly in the first half.

"We looked a class above them but I was concerned that they might get back into the game in the opening 10 minutes of the second half," Fleming said.

"When we did that, I was always confident the boys would hang on.

"I think it is marvellous that we can beat arguably the best team in Australia using seven Wollongong-born players."

Croatia player-coach Vedran Rozic admitted his team played badly in the second half.

He said Wollongong was always a hard team to beat because it tackled hard and fought for every ball.

Rozic praised the Wollongong goal. "It was created from nothing but very well taken," he said.

Rozic had a good view of the goal as he was close to Easthorpe when the Wollongong striker put the ball away.

Pat Brodnik directed a low cross in from the right and Easthorpe did well to

● Cont. Page 15

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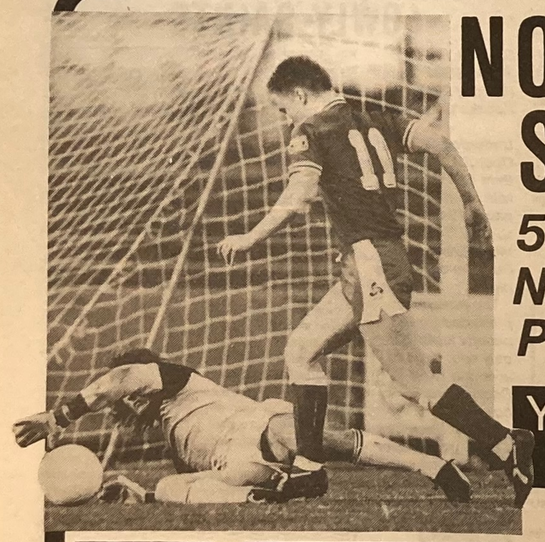
OUR ACTION-PACKED PICTURE PAGE

● Gary van Egmond clashes with John Kosmina of APIA.

● Rod Brown of APIA wins a heading duel with JUST's Gary van Egmond.



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WE have been asked by a number of people to explain how and when the League began, and what are its primary aims. In this issue, therefore, we will delve into the past and try to answer some of those questions.

The league was formed in 1971, with 12 teams playing in a single division. These founding clubs were: ACI-Johns Hydraulics, Bosch, Dulux, Fibre-makers, Hardy-Repco, Herbert Adams, McColl Engineering, MacRobertson, Marbon, Siemens, Tarax and Varian Techtron.

In those days, the league was known as the Metropolitan Industrial Soccer League. At the annual meeting in 1974, the word "Metropolitan" was dropped, and the league was known simply as the Indusrial Soccer League until November, 1978 when, again to reflect the changing backgrounds of its constituent clubs, the words "and Amateur" were inserted, giving the league the name by which it is known today.

But the league's origins go even further back. In Melbourne's eastern suburbs in the late 1960's, a competition evolved between a number of factory teams who played for the "Mooroolbark Works Cup". A leading light in developing this competition was the late Ron Clift, whose name is still commemorated in the "Ron Clift Shield" for the First Division or league champions.

The Mooroolbark Works Cup competition, although a very enjoyable competition, was pretty much an ad hoc affair, and so the push came to graduate to a more formal and disciplined structure.

Accordingly, the Metropolitan Industrial League was formed in 1971, with the late Bert Petrick as president.

The most consistent aspect of that first year's competition was the inconsistency of the various teams, with the majority of them moving up and down the championship ladder like yo-yos.

Having headed the ladder with four straight wins, MacRobertson then picked up only one point from its next four encounters, and tumbled to seventh place.

In the meantime, Siemens had bolted to the front, but the Freddo Frogs staged a miraculous recovery, and from Round 9 came with an unbeaten run to take out the championship with a three-point margin. Meanwhile, Siemens fell in a heap in the last three rounds, and were leapfrogged by Varian Techtron, who took over the runners-up position on goal difference.

Of those original clubs, only two remain, and of those only Tarax (now Oakleigh City) in an unbroken line. Fibremakers went through a period as a combined Bowater Scott/Fibremakers outfit until the Fibremakers name disappeared from the league through 1974/75.

Fibremakers reappeared as Fibremakers United at the beginning of the 1976 season.

In 1972, the league nearly doubled its membership, fielding 20 clubs in two 10-team divisions. Division 1 Champions were John Hydraulics, and Division 2 was won by Kodak United. Two new teams in 1972 were later to have an illustrious record in the League. Repco Richmond, Division 2 runners-up, later became Meko Holdings, League champions in 1986 and 1987, and League Cup winners in three successive years from 1985.

The other, VRI, later went on to become present League Champions, Middle Park.

1972 also saw the introduction of the League Cup, with Repco Richmond annihilating the luckless Goodyear 6-0.

In 1973, John Borg commenced his five-year reign as president, a period which led to sustained and remarkable growth. The league had increased to twenty-four teams, composed of the one 10-team and two 7-team divisions.

McColl Electric romped away with the League Championship-League Cup double, while 1971 champions, MacRobertson, finished stone motherless last. Thorn were the Division 2 Champions, and HMAS Cerberus headed Division 3.

Three 10-team divisions were fielded in 1974. McColl Electric were the League champions, with Standard AST heading Division 2, and Cartro taking out the Division 3 Championship. Ford Falcons were the League Cup winners upsetting odds-on favourite, Ericsson, 3-1.

New heroes emerged in 1975. Standard AST romped away from McColl to take the League championship, and rubbed salt into the wound by outplaying McColl in the League Cup Final, finally emerging 1-0 winners.

Division 2 Champions were Cartro, Division 3 W.D. & H.O. Wills, Division 4 TAA, and ReservesDivision McColl.

Three great players headed the leading goalscorers table. Present League president, Barry Horsfall (Standard AST), knocked in 30 goals in Division 1, Milos Adamovic (Tarax) 27 in Division 2, and Hugh McCann (Wills) 30 in Division 3.

★★★★★★★★★★

THE DARLINGTON ERA
At the end of the 1975 season, the five-year reign of Fred Habbe as secretary came to an end.

For the next nine years, that role was to be filled by the tireless and innovative Ron Darlington.

Early innovations in the Darlington era were the league's acquisition of its own office, a full-scale rules revision, the foormation of the League's own Referees' Branch and the commencement of the Industrial League program on Radio 3ZZ.

Two other new faces to appear on the management committee tha t year were George Yelland and David Chant. Meanwhile, the league had expanded to five full divisions.

McColl Electric, now called McColl Dynamo, returned to its winning ways in taking out the League championship after a neck-and-neck struggle with Cartro.

The Division 2 championship went to Ford Falcons, Division 3 to Ansett, Division 4West to Colyer Watson Rovers and Division 4 East to Fibre Containers. The League Cup winners were Cartro, and Cup winners were Cartro, and Cup Finalist Ford Falcons.

A sixth division was added to the League in 1977, the League Championship gong to Pegasus, Division 2 to Public Works, Division 3 to Colyer Watson Rovers, Division 4 East to Keeley United, Division 4 West to James Miller and Division 4 North to Travellers Melbourne.

McColl Dynamo won back the League Cup, narrolwy heading Split Auto Repairs, and the player of the year was Joe Keenan of W.D. & H.O. Wills.

1977 was also noteworthy for the "Great Referees Strike" (of which the less said the better) and for the end of John Borg's reign as President.

The League will always be in debt to John Borg for the sane and dedicated leadership which he provided in those early years. It provided a foundation for outstanding growth in numbers and in status.

Ente Begovic became president in 1978, but through business pressure was forced to resign after only three months. Senior vice-president David Chant took over the balance of his term.

Membership increased to 69 teams, one of whom deserves some special mention. Golden Fleece Rams came in late, took the League's all-time record drubbing, 31-0, at the hands of Geelong-based Pyramid, but finished the season full of enthusiasm and with points on the board.

As a matter of interest, their start was so disastrous that they finished with a scoring record of 19 goals for and 140 against, but they picked up 7 points from three wins and a draw, which says a lot about their undoubted courage. But the Rams were not the only ones to suffer at the hands of Pyramid Building Society, which still holds the record for the most goals (108) in a season.

League champions that year were Pegasus (again), Division 2 — Ansett, Division 3 East — Lysaght, Division 3 West — Split Auto Repairs, Division 4 East — Fibremakers United, Division 4 West — Hedges Dynamo and Division 4 North — Ashur United, while the League Cup winner was Tarax.

At the end of the season, the League played a series of matches against four other affiliated Leagues, and then organised a meeting of those Leagues, at which it was decided to conduct an annual "Country Leagues" championship on the Queens Birthday Weekend in each year.

In 1979, Jimmy Dixon became president of the League's Referees' Branch, a position he holds to this day, and David Chant became the League President.

Meanwhile, the first Country Leagues championships were played in Ballarat, and were duly won by the League's team, a feat, sadly, which was not to be repeated for another nine years.

The League Champions were Ansett, making it a hat trick of championships (Divisions 3, 2 and 1 in successive years). Split Auto Repairs continued their winning ways with the Division 2 Championship, while Champions in Division 3 East was Clifton Hill Y.C.W., in Division 3 West — Hedges Dynamo, in Division 4 East — Micron, in Division 4 North — Doxa United, in Division 4 West — Altona Melita Catering and in Division 4 Central — S.C.O.T. (now Swinburne). Tarax made history by being the first to win the League Cup in successive years, after edging out Split Auto Repairs 2-1.

Hedes Dynamo proved proved that nice guys can be winners, as they took out the Division 3 West Championship, winning 17 of their 18 matches, and were also joint winners of the Sportsmanship Award. Player of the year in 1979 was Ray King of Bosch Dynamo.

Next week, we shall continue the story of the League, and in particular the Siwka years, and will deal with some of the developments which we foresee through 1989 and beyond.

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SEMI-FINAL DETAILS

MELBOURNE CITY 2 (Tortevski 61st, van Egmond 65th). HEIDELBERG UNITED 0
At Olympic Park, Wednesday. Crowd 6500 (Double-header). Referee C. Bambridge.
MELBOURNE CITY: Nikitovic - Deankovic, Durakovic, van Egmond, Barjaktarevic - Fabrizio, Tapai, Crino, Tortevski - Palatsides, Dimoski.
Coach Ilija Dimoski.
HEIDELBERG UNITED: Chatzitrifonos - Patiniotis, Lucchesi, Ousalkas, Bordignon - Pappas, Alagozidis, Kanesoulis, Raynes - Stubbins, Goutzioulis.
Coach Jim Tansey.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Spink 82nd, 85th) SOUTH MELBOURNE (Wright 65th, 86th).
South Melbourne won 4-2 on penalties.
At Olympic Park, Wednesday. Crowd 6500 (Double-header). Referee D. Voutsinas. Cautions Foster (SM), Markovski, Tasevski (PM).
PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Traianides - Roodhouse, Jackson, Piculovski, Jolevski - Markovski (Petrov 88th), Tasevski (Taseski 40th), Zinni, Markovac (Slifkas 69th) - Smith, Spink.
Coach Andom Doncevski.
SOUTH MELBOURNE: - McLaren - Healy, Fernandez, Blair, Postecoglou - Seven (Wright 67th), Lennon (Trimboli HT), Russell - Mori, Foster, Tsolakis (Anezakis 90th) Coach Brian Garvey.

BUFFALO CUP SEMI-FINALS

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Spink 82nd, 85th)
SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Wright 65th, 86th)

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● *BRUCE McLAREN*

SOUTH Melbourne battled its way to a Buffalo Cup-final confrontation with Melbourne JUST in a gripping semi-final at Olympic Park last Wednesday week.

Nearly 7,000 fans roared themselves hoarse as the fortunes of the match swung first one way, then another with victory eventually going to South after as dramatic a penalty shoot-out as you would ever want to see.

By a quirk of the draw, both semi-finals of the evening featured clubs who had met in the NSL a few days before, and in both cases, the tables were turned.

Heidelberg had won its first NSL victory on the holiday Monday at Olympic Village, beating Melbourne JUST 2-1 but was rolled fairly easily in the Cup 2-0.

And South had been beaten by Preston Makedonia 2-1 in another cracking encounter at Headquarters on the Sunday.

So, undeterred by any possibility that the four clubs might be saving themselves for the upcoming NSL round, the fans flocked to the Park, and they certainly got value for money.

Newspaper speculation had been rife that South, rocked by two successive NSL defeats, might plunge into the transfer market, with Juve's Mike Petersen and APIA's Peter Tredinnick two possible targets.

Indeed, Preston and JUST were also rumoured to be hot to collar Petersen, but nothing had been finalised before the game.

Instead, South coach Brian Garvey enigmatically reshuffled his pack, in the process

● Cont. Page 15

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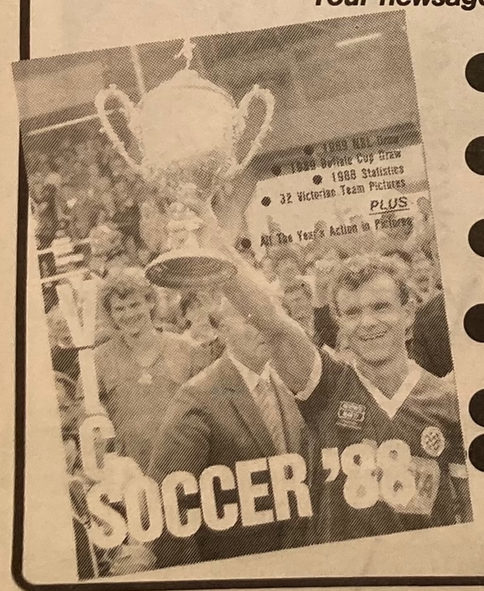

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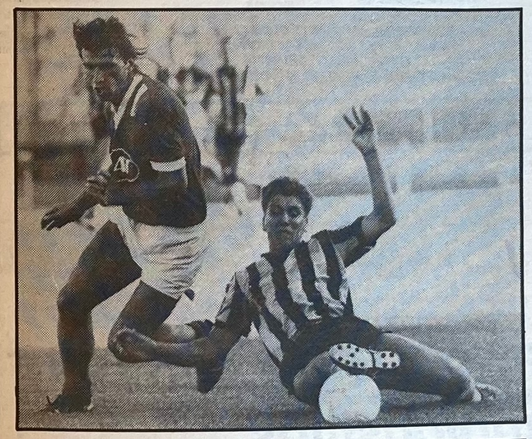

BUFFALO CUP ACTION

- TOP LEFT: Arthur Patiniotis wins the ball from Joe Palatsides.
- TOP RIGHT: Ernie Tapai strides away from John Kanesoulis.
- LEFT: Phil Stubbins desperate lunge defies Drago Deankovic.
- BOTTOM LEFT: Gary Van Egmond rises high to clear over Joe Palatsides.
- BOTTOM RIGHT: Phil Stubbins in high-kicking style.

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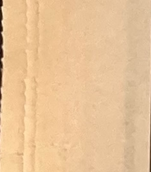

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BUFFALO CUP SEMI FINALS

● Cont. From P. 12

shaking down from his sleeve a couple of wild cards named Sonny Seven and Kiron Lennon, and then proceeded to field a formation that had the South supporters (and the rest of us) agog with curiosity.

He rearranged his back four, pushed captain Bobby Russell up to the middle to look after promoted youth team players Seven and Lennon, and had the temerity to leave his two strikers, Danny Wright and Paul Trimboli on the bench!

The plan worked well enough, with Damian Mori and Paul Foster as a two-man strike force, but Preston had the better of the first half, only to be denied by a superb goal-keeping display by Bruce McLaren.

McLaren is playing out of his skin this year, and if he bothers getting naturalised his elevation to the Socceroos can only be a matter of time (always granted that Frank Arok can be bothered to look past his own Mike Gibson).

Garvey brought on Trimboli to replace young Lennon at half-time, but it was still anybody's game when he brought on Danny Wright for Seven at the 62nd minute mark.

Wright scored only three minutes later and the inevitable smoke-bombs came on the pitch as the South fans reinforced incidentally, by Heidelberg's own, reached new heights of ecstasy.

But the game wasn't over by any means.

Stung by the goal, Preston swarmed around McLaren's goal like enraged hornets.

We had three goals in the space of six minutes as Warren Spink grabbed an equaliser, then sent the Reds ahead, only for Wright to retaliate with an equaliser with only four minutes left.

So it was on to the scoreless extra-time and then the drama of the penalties.

The penalty shoot-out comes when the legs are at their weariest, and the deadliest of strikers quail at the comparatively simple task of poking the ball past a static goalkeeper from a mere twelve yards away.

The penalty-taker should be about ten to one on in these circumstances, but it doesn't work out that way.

So we had the spectacle of Steve Smith, normally one of the country's deadliest finishers, blasting Preston's first penalty over the bar and nearly into orbit.

The unflappable Angie Postecoglou stepped up and put South ahead, then George Petrov, still reasonably fresh after coming on surprisingly for Markovski in the 88th minute, put Preston level again at 1-1.

Paul Trimboli tucked his spot-kick away competently, then along came poor George Jolevski who up till then hadn't put a foot wrong.

But he hit the foot of the post and Preston's goose was cooked.

Danny Wright made it 3-1, and although George Slifkas pulled it back to 3-2, Paul Foster beat Phil Trainides to put the game beyond Preston's reach. It was a great match, great entertainment and we can only fervently hope that the Final itself can come somewhere near to matching it.

— LES SHORROCK

MELBOURNE JUST 2 (Tortevski 61st, Van Egmond 65th) HEIDELBERG UNITED 0

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● OSCAR CRINO

Melbourne City JUST defeated Heidelberg United 2-0 in the first semi-final of the Buffalo Cup at Olympic Park last Wednesday night, and now meet South Melbourne in the final.

It was a case of sweet revenge for Melbourne after losing to Heidelberg on Australia Day in a NSL match.

The crowd of 7,000 was brought to its feet in the 32nd minute whe Melbourne hit the foot of the post.

Melbourne's Milan Dimovski managed to cut his way through the Heidelberg defense and shot past Heidelberg 'keeper Mike Chatzitrifonos, only to watch in dismay as the ball rebounded into play off the woodwork.

Five minutes later Melbourne's Joe Palatsides also missed a golden opportunity to put his side into the lead.

Luciano Fabrizio did all the groundwork then set up Palatsides.

However, Palatsides missed the open goal as his shot with the outside of the boot flew over the crossbar.

In the second-half Melbourne continued to pour on the pressure and it was Dimovski again whose near miss in the 51st minute kept the game even.

Melbourne's Oscar Crino passed to team-mate Drago Deankovic whose cross found Dimovski in the penalty-box, but his header skimmed narrowly over the bar.

In the 61st minute Melboume's pre-season recruit from St George, Vlade Tortevski put Melbourne into the lead.

Man of the Match, Oscar Crino, managed to dispossess Heidelberg's Con Pappas in his own area and lay the ball square for Tortevski.

Tortevski grabbed the chance with both hands as his shot deflected off Heidelberg's captain, Claude Lucchesi, and into the back of the net.

As Heidelberg was still coming to grips with the setback Melbourne's Gary Van Egmond put the issue beyond doubt by scoring his side's second goal.

From a corner which made its way to the far post Crino headed the ball back to Van Egmond who made no mistake from only six yards out.

Heidelberg refused to throw in the towel and came desperately close to pulling a goal back.

In the 74th minute a free-kick by Lucchesi was pounced on by Nick Ousalkas.

Ousalkas's header seemed certain of hitting the back of the net but it was Dimovski who came to the rescue for Melbourne and acrobatically cleared the ball of the line.

As the final whistle blew a sigh of relief was let out by the Melbourne players who now have the chance to capture the season's first piece of silverware.

— COSTA KOUTROPOULOS

INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

● Cont. From P. 11

★★★★★★★★★★
A VERY GOOD REASON
The lately-merged Eltham & Diamond Valley Club will be fielding a team in the Industrial League in 1989.

In explaining his club's reason for this move, popular president, Alf Beer, said that his club was determined to keep and provide a facility for all of its members.

He said: "We have a number of lads coming out of our juniors whom we can't place immediately in the senior teams, and a number of older players who are reaching the end of their first team careers.

Some of them have been with us for 15/16 years, and we are not going to tell them goodbye, and it was nice knowing you.

"We want all our members t stick together, and the formation of this team gives them an ideal chance to stay together and play together for Eltham & Diamond Valley Soccer Club."

We cannot think of a better reason, and can only say that any other Club, whether it be National League, State League or Provisional League based, is cordially invited to make the same move.

★★★★★★★★★★

N.S.L. ROUND-UP

● Cont. From P. 5

connect, sending his header out of the reach of goalkeeper Tony Franken.

Croatia lacked ideas in the first half and relied far too much on optimistic long balls after the interval.

Croatia front runners Robbie Slater, Sean Ingham and Graham Arnold were always well harnessed by the hard-working Wollongong back four, in which Jock Morlando was outstanding.

●●●●●●●●●●

SOUTH DOWNS GEORGIE

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● DAMIAN MORI

STH. MELBOURNE 2 (Mori 54th, 57th) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 1 (Lewis 68th)

Youngster Damian Mori took over as South Melbourne's top scorer, hitting both goals in the side's 2-1 win over Sunshine George Cross in the game at Middle Park on Sunday.

Mori, promoted from South's youth team at the start of the season, began his good performance by earning the side a penalty kick just seven minutes into the second half when he was brought down in the area by John Campelj.

But Angie Postecogolou mis-hit the spot kick wide of the left post to give George Cross a reprieve.

Mori took just two more minutes to finally break the deadlock, hitting home a low shot after controlling a centre from Postecogolou.

The 19-year-old, a product of Box Hill's juniors, got a second goal in the 57th minute.

He smashed the rebound past Sean Keogh after the Sunshine defence had blocked two attempts on goal by Mike Petersen.

Petersen was playing his first game for South after crossing from Brunswick Juventus on a $12,000 loan earlier in the week.

Despite lacking match fitness, the Socceroo mid-fielder managed to see out the full 90 minutes.

Mori tarnished his good performance when a mistake by him gave George Cross a chance to get back in the game in the 88th minute.

The striker was back helping his defence but got involved in a mix-up and the ball rebounded off him to Paul Lewis.

Lewis gratefully accepted the error to score a consultation goal for Cross.

ADELAIDE CITY ON THE MEND

ADELAIDE CITY 1 (Mullen 43rd) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Markovski 2nd, Spink 70th)

MAN OF THE MATCH:
● WARREN SPINK

ADELAIDE City went down to its fourth consecutive NSL loss to Preston Makedonia on Sunday night, but a much-improved performance suggested that it might be pulling out of its slump at last.

City was always behind the eight ball after going in arrears in only the second minute of the game through a controversial penalty, awarded by local referee Tom McRoe.

Preston winger Andrew Zinni skipped through a sliding tackle by Neville Flounders, but lost possession of the ball, which had gone out of play when he was floored by Bugsy Nyskohus.

John Markovski converted the spot-kick without any difficulty. However, Adelaide City fought back courageously and got its reward two minutes before the break when an accurate cross from Flounders saw Joe Mullen leaping to head past Preston 'keeper Phil Traianides for the equaliser.

City came out for the second term full of fight and gave the Preston defence a torid time for the first twenty minutes.

Aurelio Vidmar had a raking volley tipped over the bar by the 'keeper, then a Flounders header went narrowly wide and it seemed only a matter of time for the winner to come.

But Warren Spink shattered City's illusions with a superlative goal in the 70th minute.

Fullback George Jolevski made ground down the right and his inch-perfect cross found Spink lurking in the penalty area and his diving header gave Robert Zabica no chance.

That ended City's resistance for the day, and Preston hung on to its advantage comfortably enough to the final whistle.

●●●●●●●●●●

OVERSEAS NEWS

UK RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Arsenal 2 West Ham 1, Aston Villa 2 Sheffield Wednesday 0, Charlton 1 Norwich 2, Derby 3 Southampton 1, Everton 1 Wimbledon 1, Luton 2 Nottingham Forest 3, Middlesbrough 1 Coventry 1, Newcastle 2 Liverpool 2, Queen's Park Rangers 1 Millwall 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	22	14	5	3	48	23	47
Norwich	23	12	8	3	35	25	44
Coventry	23	10	7	6	32	23	37
Notts Fst	23	9	10	4	34	26	37
Liverpool	23	9	9	5	30	20	36
Millwall	22	10	6	6	28	18	36
Derby	22	10	5	7	26	17	35
Manch Utd	22	8	9	5	31	19	33
Everton	22	8	7	7	27	24	31
Middlesbro	23	8	6	9	30	35	30
Aston Vill	23	7	8	8	33	36	28
Wimbledon	23	8	5	10	25	30	29
Tottenham	22	6	8	8	35	34	26
Luton	23	6	8	9	35	29	26
Southampt	23	6	8	9	35	45	26
Q.P.R.	23	6	6	11	24	34	24
Charlton	23	5	8	10	25	34	23
Sheff Wed	22	5	8	9	18	25	23
Newcastle	23	4	6	13	19	42	18
West Ham	23	4	5	14	20	41	17

DIVISION TWO

Barnsley 2 Brighton 2, Blackburn 2 Bradford 1, Bournemouth 2 Ipswich 1, Ipswich 1 Crystal Palace 2, Leeds 2 Sunderland 0, Leicester 0 Hull 2, Oldham 3 Watford 1, Plymouth 0 Birmingham 1 Portsmouth 0 Manchester City 1, Shrewsbury 1 Stoke 2, Walsall 0 Chelsea 7

Chelsea	27	14	9	4	56	27	51
Manch City	27	14	8	5	49	27	50
Watford	27	14	5	8	41	28	47
Blackburn	27	12	8	7	41	28	44
W.B.A.	27	12	8	7	45	35	44
Crys Pal	26	11	8	7	34	25	41
Barnsley	27	10	8	9	38	36	41
Leeds	27	10	10	7	38	32	40
Ipswich	27	12	4	11	42	35	40
Sunderland	27	10	7	10	42	35	40
Bournemth	27	12	4	11	30	32	40
Stoke	27	10	7	10	30	32	37
Portsmouth	27	10	6	9	37	34	36
Plymouth	27	10	6	11	32	36	36
Leicester	27	9	9	9	33	37	36
Hull	27	9	9	10	38	39	36
Swindon	25	9	10	7	33	32	34
Bradford	27	7	10	10	28	33	31
Oxford	26	8	6	12	41	40	30
Brighton	27	8	6	13	30	38	30
Oldham	27	6	9	12	42	46	27
Shrewsbury	27	4	11	12	26	40	23
Birmingham	27	4	7	16	19	50	19
Walsall	27	2	8	17	21	51	14

DIVISION THREE

Aldershot 1 Northampton 1, Blackpool 2 Wigan 0, Bristol Rovers 0 Cardiff 1, Bury 2 Chesterfield 1, Chester 3 Reading 0, Fulham 1 Huddersfield 2, Gillingham 0 Brentford 0, Notts County 2 Mansfield 1, Port Vale 0 Wolverhampton 0, Sheffield United 4 Bolton 0, Played Friday: Southend 2 Preston 1, Swansea 1 Bristol City 1

Wolvst	27	17	7	3	58	27	58
Port Vale	25	14	7	4	48	25	49
Bury	27	14	5	8	45	35	47
Sheff Utd	24	14	5	5	39	21	47
Swansea	26	12	9	5	37	27	45
Brist Rov	26	12	7	7	37	27	43
Chester	26	12	6	8	42	41	42
Preston	27	11	7	9	38	33	40
Huddersfld	26	12	4	10	33	36	40
Fulham	27	11	6	10	33	34	39
Brentford	25	9	9	7	34	30	36
Blackpool	26	8	10	8	33	27	34
Cardiff	24	9	7	8	29	31	34
Brist City	26	9	7	10	28	30	34
Reading	25	9	6	10	26	38	33
Mansfield	26	7	11	8	27	31	32
Notts Cty	26	7	10	9	30	32	31
Bolton	27	8	7	12	34	38	31
Southend	27	7	8	12	32	47	29
Wigan	27	6	8	13	30	37	26
Northampt	27	6	8	13	26	48	26
Aldershot	26	5	8	13	27	47	23
Chesterfld	28	6	4	18	22	55	22
Gillingham	27	6	3	18	24	45	21

DIVISION FOUR

Burnley 1 Torquay 0, Carlisle 0 Scunthorpe 3, Crewe 2 Hereford 1, Doncaster 1 Rochdale 1, Exeter 2 Darlington 1, Grimsby 0 Wrexham 1, Halifax 2 Stockport 2, Hartlepool 0 York 1, Layton Orient 3 Rotherham 1, Lincoln 3 Cambridge United 0, Peterborough 1 Tranmere 1, Scarborough 0 Colchester 0

Crewe	26	13	9	4	37	26	48
Wrexham	25	12	9	4	40	24	45
Scunthorpe	25	12	9	6	47	41	45
Rotherham	26	12	9	6	39	31	42
Scarboro	26	11	9	6	35	30	42
Exeter	26	13	3	10	37	28	41
Tranmere	26	10	11	5	32	28	41
Burnley	25	11	6	8	44	40	39
Lincoln	26	11	6	9	44	40	39
Torquay	26	11	6	9	39	43	39
Cambridge	26	10	6	10	40	43	36
Doncaster	27	10	6	11	34	49	35
Stockport	27	8	11	8	35	37	35
Ley Orient	25	9	7	9	45	28	34
Halifax	26	10	3	13	37	42	33
York	25	9	6	11	35	41	33
Hartlepool	26	9	6	11	30	33	33
Carlisle	27	8	8	11	34	37	32
Rochdale	27	8	8	11	34	37	32
Grimsby	25	7	8	10	37	39	29
Peterboro	27	7	8	12	35	42	29
Hereford	26	7	7	12	35	42	28
Darlington	26	6	13	7	28	46	25
Colchester	25	3	7	15	27	51	16

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

Ayr 1 Raith 1, Dunfermline 3 Clyde 0, Falkirk v Queen of the South postponed, Forfar 2 Cowdenbeath 4, Meadowbank 3 Airdrieonians 2, Morton v Kilmarnock postponed, Partick v St Johnstone postponed

Dunfermlin	28	16	8	5	49	27	37
Airdrie	28	13	8	5	48	26	34
Clydebank	26	12	7	7	34	33	31
Falkirk	25	14	4	7	43	26	32
St Johnst	25	12	6	7	38	24	32
Morton	25	12	4	9	32	32	28
Partick	26	8	8	10	32	28	24
Meadowbank	28	8	7	11	26	33	23
Raith	26	8	7	11	28	33	23
Ayr	26	8	7	11	39	51	23
Kilmarnock	25	8	6	11	29	32	22
Clyde	26	5	10	11	28	39	20
Forfar	26	5	5	16	33	49	15
Q of Sth	25	2	6	17	27	56	10

DIVISION TWO

Alloa 3 Stirling 2, Arbroath 1 Dumbarton 1, Berwick 2 Albion 1, Cowdenbeath v Brechin postponed, Montrose 2 East Fife 2, Queen's Park 1 Stenhousemuir 1, Stranraer 1 East Stirling 2

Albion	24	15	7	2	51	27	34
Brechin	24	10	9	5	39	30	29
Queens Pk	24	8	12	4	33	23	28
Stranraer	24	10	7	7	38	37	27
Stirling	25	10	7	8	41	37	27
Cowdenbth	24	9	9	6	31	26	27
Alloa	24	9	10	5	37	36	28
Arbroath	25	8	9	8	36	32	25
East Fife	25	8	9	8	32	28	25
E Stirling	25	8	8	9	39	42	24
Montrose	24	8	8	8	33	33	24
Stenhousem	25	6	7	12	29	38	19
Dumbarton	24	5	7	12	26	38	17
Berwick	25	4	6	15	28	49	14

NORTHERN IRISH LEAGUE

Ards 0 Cliftonville 4, Ballymena 3 Distillery 0, Carrick 2 Bangor 3, Crusaders 0 Coleraine 3, Glentoran 2 Glenavon 3, Newry v Linfield postponed, Portadown 4 Larne 0

H 13313 SOC 911 SS Copy7 Soccer Star Box 1.

WEST END

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND FIVE FEB. 11/12

NSL

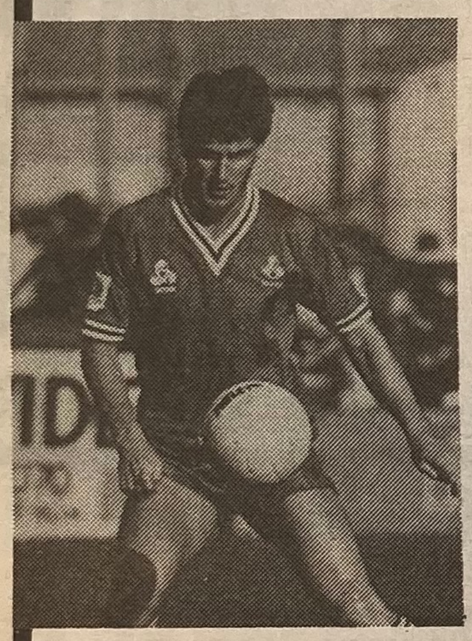
● Robert Markovac

PRESTON MAKEDONIA v WOLLONGONG CITY

OLYMPIC PARK

SUNDAY 6 PM

● Danny Crainie



● Don McLaren

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v ADELAIDE CITY

CHAPLIN RESERVE

SATURDAY 5.30 PM

● Sergie Melta

● Danny Wright

SOUTH MELBOURNE v MARCONI

MIDDLE PARK

SUNDAY 6.00 PM

● Bob Catlin

ST GEORGE v MELBOURNE CROATIA
ST GEORGE STADIUM FRIDAY 7 PM

BLACKTOWN v MELBOURNE CITY
GABBIE STADIUM SUNDAY 5.30 PM

APIA LEICHHARDT v HEIDELBERG
LAMBERT PARK SATURDAY 5.30

SYDNEY CROATIA v SYDNEY OLYMPIC
CROATIAN SPORTS CENTRE SUNDAY 6.30 PM